THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) The Government of Maharashtra has advised the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) that 50 co-operative spinning mills would be set up in the State of Maharashtra during the Eighth Plan period. Of these, 12 have so far approached IDBI for assistance.

(b) to (d) IDBI has reported that no assistance has been sanctioned by the financial institutions so far, as it was felt that there was no scope for such a large capacity. In view of greater emphasis on exports, financial institutions have been giving preference to export oriented units promoted by persons with experience in the line and envisaging installation of most modern equipment to ensure production of yarn of international standard. The working of the existing co-operative mills has been generally unsatisfactory and they have large overdues to financial institutions. IDBI has advised the Government of Maharashtra to clear the overdues of existing co-operative spinning mills and strengthen their organisational set up.

Devaluation of Rupee

4411. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to devalue the rupee further to increase exports of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether this move is due to impact of Budget proposals for 1994-95 to enable Small Scale Industrial Units to compete in the export market ; and

(d) if so, details thereof and the periodicity of such move ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) to (d) Since the introduction of a unified exchange rate in March 1993 the exchange rate of the Rupee is determined by the forces of demand and supply in the foreign exchange market. However, the RBI's intervention in the market in the form of buying up the surpluse flow of foreign exchange has so far prevented the exchange rate from appreciating. It is the intention of the Government to maintain a competitive exchange rate.

Allotment of Shares of SBI

4412. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaint has been received from the Investors' Grievances Forum demanding a thorough inquiry into the share allotment of the State Bank of India ;

(b) whether it is a fact that many valid share applications were rejected and the banks went on accepting applications for three/four days, even after the issue was officially declared closed ; and

(c) who were the registrars to the issue and what action the SEBI propose to take against the registrars for manipulation and mismanagement of this public issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) had received a complaint letter from the Investors' Grievances Forum making certain general allegations and requesting an enquiry.

(b) The rejections were generally in respect of multiple applications, in accordance with the prescribed procedure for the purpose. There is no information to support the view that applications were being accepted beyond the issue closure date.

(c) MAS Services Pvt. Ltd. were the Registrar to the issue. In the absence of evidence of any malpractices, SEBI does not propose to take any action against the registrars.

Payment of Dividend by UTI

4413. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that dividend vouchers due in favour of thousands of depositors have not been disbursed so far